(1947) Department

SERIES.

G.O. No. 5560

Dated

[Despatch Abstract.]

Agriculture - I.C.A.R. First meeting of the wheat rust Control committee to be held on 11th Dec.1947 at New Delhi Government Mycologist, Coimbatore permitted to attend

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS
Development Department
G.O.Ms.5560, dated 1st December 1947.

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ABSTRACT

Agriculture - Indian Council of Agricultural Research - First meeting of the wheat Rust Control Committee at New Delhi to be held on 11th December 1947 at New Delhi Government Mycologist, Coimbatore - Permitted to attend -

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READ:-

From the Indian Council of Agricultural Research, No.F.73(8)/47 dated 22-11-1947.

O R D E R:

His Excellency the Governor of Madras permits Mr. K. M. Thomas, Government Mycologist, Coimbatore, or his successor to attend the first meeting of the Wheat Rust Control Committee, set up by the Government of India, to be held on 11th December 1947 at New Delhi.

2. The Travelling Allowance of the Government Mycologist will be met by the Madras Government.

3. The Government have no objection to the Indian Council of Agricultural Research corresponding direct with the Government Mycologist on matters relating to the business of the Committee.

(By Order of His Excellency the Governor)

x x x x x,
Secretary to Government.

To
The Director of Agriculture.
(with enclosure)
The Accountant-General through Finance.
Copy to the Indian Council of Agricultural Research

/True Copy/

S. Jayaraman 9.5
Office Assistant,
Madras Record Office.

gs/24-12/

12/5/54

Copy of letter No.D.Dis.D.1.987-47 dated 2-2-48 from the Director of Agriculture, Chepuak, Madras addressed to the Secretary to Govt., Development Deptt., Fort St. George, Madras.

Sub: Agriculture - Indian Council of Agricultural Research 1st meeting of the wheat rust control Committee to be held on 11th December 47 at New Delhi - Government Mycologist Coimbatore permitted to attend - Report submission of
Ref: G.O.Ms.No.5560 Development dated 1-12-1947.

I submit the report of the Government Mycologist on the meeting of the wheat rust control Committee held on 11-12-47 at New Delhi.

DEV.DEPTT.

To A.S.

Please see the report of the Govt. Mycologist on pp.3-4 below on the proceedings of the meeting of the wheat rust committee of the I.C.A.R. on pp.3-4 below previous papers at 'X'

(Sd) xxx

Copy of Roc.No.304-47 dated 15-1-1948 from the Govt. Mycologist, Agril. College and Research Institute, Coimbatore, addressed to the Director of Agriculture, P.B.No.412, Triplicane, Madras.

Sub: Agriculture - Indian Council of Agricultural Research - 1st meeting of Wheat Rust Control Committee held at New Delhi on 11-12-1947.
Ref: Your Memo.No.Roc.D.1.987/47 dated 8-1-1948.

Mr. K.M.Thomas, attended the meeting of the Wheat Rust Control Committee held under the auspices of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research at Delhi on 11-12-1947

The President explained the object of the meeting and called upon Mr. Thomas and Dr. Mundkur who were in charge of the Wheat Rust survey in Madras Province and Travancore respectively to explain the position as seen by them.

Mr. Thomas pointed out that the Kharif crop of wheat in the Nilgiris was more important than the Rabi crop. He said that Triticum dicoccum was exclusively grown on the Nilgiris and Palnis and this was resistant to black rust (Puccinia graminis) and this rust was not observed on this variety during the survey. Triticum vulgare (N.P.III) which is grown on a limited area is however highly susceptible and was heavily rusted. He emphasized the fact that the best course was to restrict cultivation of vulgare wheats on the hills.

Several of collateral hosts of Puccinia graminis occurred on the Nilgiris. Of these Vulpia myuros and Briza minor were found affected by the rust during the survey. In these circumstances he stressed the necessity for the revision of the view favouring the policy of suspensionof the Kharif crop on the hills and adoption of the clean up of stubbles and volunteer plants of wheat. It would be a super-human task to clean up all the collateral hosts growing on the hills. A more rational method of approach would be the establishment of a sub-station for breeding rust resistant varieties of wheat on the Nilgiris

A scheme has been submitted to the Madras Governmen purpose.

Dr. Mundkur who had examined the wheat crop in Travancore observed that both yellow rust (P.glumarum) and black rust were present but more of the former. He was of opinion that the topography was not favourable for the spread of the rusts from wheat in this area to other parts of India.

Dr. Mehta was of the view that the suspension of the summer crop of wheat from the hills of Peninsular India consisting only a small acreage was bound to lead to considerable amount of mitigation of the trouble. He suggested that the cultivators can take to other grain crops like rye till the time rust resistant varieties of wheat were available.

Mr. Thomas was not in favour of suppension of the summer crop on the Nilgiris but he stated that the cultivation of the vulgars varieties may be banned.

The committee was informed that if suspension of the crop was decided upon it would involve an expenditure of about Rs.5 lakhs by way of compensation to growers per annum. Further the task of removing stubbles, volunteer plants etc., was not practicable.

Messrs. Thomas and Vasudeva (Head of the Division of Mycology, New Delhi) felt that it was necessary to make a detailed survey to assess the relative importance of collateral grass hosts before adopting legislation.

The committee decided that the work as suggested by Messrs. Thomas and Vasudeva can be undertaken but that control measures on the lines suggested by Dr.Mehta should also be taken up immediately as urgent measures of relief are necessary It was decided to make a reference to the Madras Government for taking necessary action with regard to the legislation and other measures. Dr. Mehta was requested to put up detailed pro posals for the staff and other facilities. The work is expected to be carried out under the aegis of the Madras Government in consultation with Dr. Mehta. This decision was to by all members and visitors except Messrs. Thomas and Vasudeva who were of the opinion that there was no need to take up the proposed control measures in Peninsular Indian as they had already been tried for two years without success.

/True Copy

Office Assistant,
Madras Record Office.

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